

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA  
LAFAYETTE DIVISION

THE STATE OF LOUISIANA,  
By and through its Attorney General,  
Elizabeth B. Murrill, et al.

*Plaintiffs,*

v.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF  
COMMERCE, et al.,

*Defendants.*

No. 6:25-cv-00076-DCJ-DJA

**JOINT STATUS REPORT**

Plaintiffs, the States of Louisiana, Kansas, Ohio, and West Virginia, and Defendants, the U.S. Department of Commerce, Secretary of Commerce Howard W. Lutnick, the U.S. Census Bureau, and Acting Director of the Census Bureau Ron S. Jarmin, jointly submit this status report pursuant to the Court’s March 6, 2025, Order, ECF No. 48.

1. On January 17, 2025, Plaintiffs filed a Complaint challenging the lawfulness of the method by which the U.S. Census Bureau “count[ed] the whole number of persons in each State,” U.S. CONST. amend. XIV, § 2, during the 2020 Decennial Census. See Compl., ECF No. 1; see also 13 U.S.C. § 141(a) (assigning responsibility for the Decennial Census to the Secretary of Commerce, who oversees the Census Bureau).

2. On March 3, 2025, Defendants moved to stay the litigation, noting that “[n]ew leadership at the Department of Commerce is in the process of onboarding and has not yet had time to determine its approach to the Residence Rule and this litigation following the issuance of Executive Order 14148.” Def.’s Mot. to Stay, ECF No. 46 at 2.

3. On March 6, 2025, the Court granted Defendants' Motion to Stay, struck the pending Motions to Intervene during the pendency of the stay, ECF No. 3, ECF No. 30, and ordered the Parties to submit a joint status report on May 2, 2025. Order, ECF No. 48. The parties did so, and included their joint proposal "to file another joint status report on July 1, 2025." ECF No. 51.

4. On July 1, 2025, the parties filed a joint status report proposing to continue the stay until October 1, 2025. ECF No. 53.

5. The Parties have conferred, and believe that continuing the stay will conserve party and judicial resources and promote the efficient and orderly disposition of this case by ensuring that the litigation proceeds with the informed views of current Department of Commerce and Department of Justice leadership.

6. The Parties propose to file another joint status report on December 17, 2025.

Dated: October 1, 2025

**ELIZABETH B. MURRILL**  
**Attorney General of Louisiana**

/s/ Tracy Short  
Tracy Short (La #23940)  
*Assistant Chief Deputy Attorney General*  
Office of the Louisiana  
Attorney General  
1885 North Third Street  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802  
Phone : (225) 326-6705  
shortt@ag.louisiana.gov

*Counsel for the State of Louisiana*

Respectfully submitted,

**KRIS W. KOBACH**  
**Attorney General of Kansas**

/s/ James R. Rodriguez  
James R. Rodriguez (KS 29172)\*  
*Assistant Attorney General*  
Kansas Office of the Attorney General  
Topeka, Kansas 66612  
Phone: (785) 368-8197  
jay.rodriguez@ag.ks.gov

Christopher J. Hajec\*  
D.C. Bar No. 492551  
Matt A. Crapo\*  
D.C. Bar No. 473355  
Immigration Reform Law Institute  
25 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Suite 335  
Washington, DC 20001  
Phone: (202) 232-5590  
Fax: (202) 464-3590  
chajec@irli.org  
mrapo@irli.org

*Counsel for the State of Kansas*

**DAVE YOST**  
**Ohio Attorney General**

/s/ T. Elliot Gaiser  
T. Elliot Gaiser\*  
*Solicitor General*  
30 East Broad Street, 17th Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215  
Phone: (614) 466-8980  
thomas.gaiser@ohioago.gov

*Counsel for State of Ohio*

**JOHN B. McCUSKEY**  
**Attorney General of West Virginia**

/s/ Michael R. Williams  
Michael R. Williams\*  
*Solicitor General*  
State Capitol Complex,  
Bldg. 1, Rm E-26  
1900 Kanawha Blvd. E  
Charleston, WV 25305  
Phone: (304) 558-2021  
michael.r.williams@wvago.gov

*Counsel for State of West Virginia*

\**Pro Hac Vice*

BRETT A. SHUMATE  
Assistant Attorney General  
Civil Division

ALEXANDER K. HAAS  
Director  
Federal Programs Branch

STEPHEN M. ELLIOTT  
Assistant Branch Director  
Federal Programs Branch

/s/ Stephen M. Pezzi  
STEPHEN M. PEZZI  
Florida Bar No. 1041279  
Senior Trial Counsel  
United States Department of Justice  
Civil Division, Federal Programs Branch  
1100 L Street NW Washington, DC 20005  
Phone: (202) 305-8576  
E-mail: stephen.pezzi@usdoj.gov

*Counsel for the United States*